

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 5 has been amended. Claims 1-8 are pending and under consideration. Claims 7 and 8 are objected to.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Lim (U.S. Patent 6,330,215).

Using independent claim 1 as an example, this claim recites recording extended part version information in the reserved zone of the physical format information zone. In contrast, Lim discloses a physical format information region which includes book type information, disc size information, and disc structure information. Lim, FIG. 5. Disc identification information is included in the disc structure information. Lim, column 4, lines 30-32. Thus, the disc structure information is not recorded in a reserved zone of the physical format information region. Although FIG. 5 of this reference discloses a reserved region, this reserved region is a part of the control data zone, and is not a part of the physical format information region.

Claim 2 depends from independent claim 1, and recites that the recording of the extended part version information further comprises recording a latest part version having recording compatibility. According to the Examiner, bits b0 through b6 of Lim disclose this feature. However, there is no disclosure that bits b0 to b6 are used to record part version information. Instead, Lim simply discloses that disc structure information includes eight bits of data b0 to b7. The single/double side data is recorded at bit b7, but the content of bits b0 to b6 is not disclosed. The disc side information does not indicate the version of the disc.

Claim 5 depends from claim 4, and recites recording a first sub-digit immediately after the respective primary digit. According to the Examiner, when a digit is recorded at bit b7, and a digit is recorded at bit b6, this corresponds to recording a primary digit and a secondary digit. However, as discussed above with respect to claim 1, the bit b7 stands alone and therefore does not disclose a primary digit/sub-digit relationship.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER:

Based at least on the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that objected to claims 7 and

8 are allowable in their present form.

CONCLUSION:

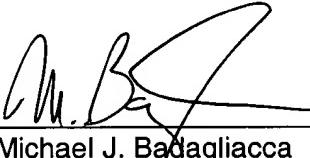
There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 8-24-04
By: 
Michael J. Badagliacca
Registration No. 39,099

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501